MINUTES

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OF THE

FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Alabama Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

Steep Creek Baptist Church,

)WNDES COUNTY, ALABAMA.

9th, 10th and 11th of October, 1868.

HAYNEVILLE:
THE HAYNEVILLE EXAMINER JOB ROOMS PRINT.
1868.

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MINUTES.

STEEP CREEK CHURCH, LOWNDES COUNTY, ALA., October 9th, 1868.

The forty-ninth annual session of the Alabama Baptist Association convened with the Steep Creek church, according to adjournment.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder Matthew Bishop, from II. Peter iii: 18—"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ."

After intermission of an hour, the body reassembled, and was called to order by its Moderator, Elder David Lee, and the business of the session was preceded by singing and prayer.

The corresponding letters of the churches were called for, and Brethren P. H. Lundy, T. M. Bailey and A. C. Barron, requested to

The delegates' names were then enrolled as follows:

First District.

[Ministers in in SMALL CAPITALS. The * denotes Absentees.]

Town Creek—*Whitfield Quarles, *Wm. G. Quarles, *E. W. Hardy, D. B. Edwards.

Sister Springs—Jere Johnson, *Jarret Carter, *J. D. Bilberry.

Providence—Joseph Armer, *Lewis Johnson, *B. F. Ellis.

Shiloh—W. C. CLEVELAND, C. C. Cleveland.

Cedar Creek—*J. J. Vaughan, *Jos. Soles, R. H. Lanford, *L. L. Lee, *Alt.*

Bethany—*Daniel Rast, *Walter Drane, H. W. Caffey.

Mt. Lebanon—Dallas—B. H. CRUMPTON, *John Buster, *S. R. Smyly, Thos. E. Williams, U. J. Crumpton,

Centre Ridge—S. W. Lide, J. E. Pouncy, *T. K. Padgett.

Second District.

Ash Creek—T. M. BAILEY, John Miles, William Crawford.

Good Hope—C. Ellington, *William Bush, A. Peagler.

Mt. Gilead—John A. Edwards.

Hayneville—*C. A. Varner, B. B. Rudulph.

Benton—*DAVID PEEBLES, *John Gresham, *J. C. Hill.

Steep Creek—R. Morrison, S. A. Satterwhite, B. F. Dean.

Bethel—M. BISHOP, W. A. Heard, T. Blake, *John Harriston. *Alternates*—*J. A. Prince, *A. F. Goldsmith.

Hopewell—DAVID LEE

Lowndesboro—*P. N. Cilley, *J. P. Wilson.

Third District.

1st Montgomery—I. T. Tichenor.
2d Montgomery—A. C. Barron, John Bullock, *William Loftin.
Unity—*Daniel Holt, James M. Smith, *Evan Presley, P. H. Lundy. *Alternate*—*N. M. Morris.
Elim—*M. M. McLemore, *A. J. McLemore, *P. W. McLemore.
Liberty—B. H. Mitchell, Pickney Windham, *John Haygood.
Ramah—G. G. McLendon, J. L. Sampey, J. W. Wayne. *Alternate*—*Calvin Stephens.
Autaugaville—O. W. Sherrer, J. I. Lamar, *J. T. Hester, *J. H. Ray.
Mt. Lebanon—Montgomery—G. B. Cantey, E. P. Johnson, J. C. Spear.

Fourth District.

Hickory Grove—J. A. Fonville, J. P. Cross, W. H. Dean.
New Ebenezer—C. C. Mothershed, Thomas Boytt.
Sardis—P. H. Drake, Wm. J. Norsworth, *D. P. Jarnigan.
Damascus—D. H. Burt, S F. Andress.
Greenville—P. H. Lundy, John Gamble, J. M. Thigpen
Macedonia—W. D. Bowden, F. L. Ellis, *William Nix.
Ephesus—*J. J. Worthington, *John Spear.
Antioch—Butler county—S. Jordan, J. P. Gafford, J. L. Hawkins.
Salem—*William Jones, *A. J. Brassell, *D. Meadows. *Alternate*—T. J. Crawford.
Philadelphia—T. W. Thrower.

The Association proceeded to ballot for officers to serve the ensuing year, resulting in the choice of Elder David Lee, Moderator. H. W. Caffey, Clerk, and S. W. Lide, Treasurer.

An invitation was extended by the Moderator to visiting ministers of like faith and order to seats with the body.

An opportunity was offered to any churches so desiring to unite with the Association. Union Church, Crenshaw county, applied for admission, through corresponding letter, and her delegates, Brethren J. E. Turner, and J. C. Ramage, and was received into fellowship.

The Moderator then proceeded to announce the following Standing Committee:

On Religious Exercises—S. W. Lide, P. H. Drake, J. W. Wayne, with Deacons of Steep Creek Church.
On Missions. (to report next year.)—Rev. A. C. Barron, John Gamble, Rev. W. C. Cleveland, B. B. Rudulph, J. I. Lamar.
On State of Religion in the Churches.—Rev. J. L. Sampey, H. Dean, Jere Johnson, U. J. Crumpton, A. Peagler.
On Documents.—Rev. I. T. Tichenor, Rev. G. G. McLendon, Jos. Armer, Rev. William C. Cleveland, J. M. Smith.
On Sabbath Schools. (to report next year.)—Rev. M. Bishop, Rev. P. H. Lundy, O. W. Sherrer, John A. Edwards, S. F. Andress.
On Finance.—Thos. E. Williams, John Gamble, C. C. Cleveland.
Auditing Committee.—T. Blake, A. Heard, J. C. Ramage.

On motion the Association adjourned to 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning. Prayer by Elder J. L. Sampey.

SATURDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Moderator called the body to order. After a hymn was sung, prayer was offered by Elder J. C. Lockhart. Minutes of the preceeding day were read, corrected, and adopted.

In accordance with the usual custom, the Clerk read the rules of order and decorum.

The Moderator called for correspondence,

Bethlehem Association—Rev. C. L. Thornton.
Zion " Rev. J. C. R. Lockhart.
Unity " Rev A. B. Hughes.

RETURNED CORRESPONDENCE.

Bethlehem Association—Rev. P. H. Lundy, Rev. D. Lee, Rev. M. Bishop, J. M. Thigpen, meets at Bellville, 12 miles west of Evergreen, on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in September, 1869.

Tuskegee Association—Rev. J. L. Sampey, Rev. A. C. Barron, Rev. J. M. Newman, Rev. J. Falconer, meets on Friday before 3d Sabbath in September, 1869.

Salem Association—Rev. G. G. McLendon, Rev. J. L. Sampey, Rev. T. J. Miles, Rev. P. H. Lundy, Rev. J. L. Landrum, Rev. M. Bishop, H. W. Clark, John Gamble, meets at China Grove, Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in October, 1869.

Pine Barren Association—Rev. Wm. C. Cleveland, Rev. B. H. Crumpton, S. W. Lide, U. J. Crumpton, J. E. Pouncey, T. E. Williams, meets at Fellowship Church, Saturday before 3d Sabbath in September, 1869.

Cahaba Association—Jere Johnson, Thos. Armer, meets Saturday before 3d Sabbath in October, 1868.

Unity Association—J. M. Smith, O. W. Sherrer, Jere Johnson, J. L. Lamar, meets at Bethel Church, Saturday before 4th Sabbath in September, 1869.

Zion Association—Rev. D. H. Burt, meets at Briarville Church, Crenshaw county, Saturday before 3d Sabbath in October, 1868.

Baptist State Convention—Rev. P. H. Lundy, Rev. I. T. Tichenor, Rev. Wm. C. Cleveland, Rev. A. C. Barron, Rev. B. H. Crumpton, C. C. Cleveland, S. W. Lide, T. E. Williams, J. E. Pouncey, H. W. Caffey.

The Association voted that the regular order of business be suspended at 11 o'clock A. M. to allow a Presbytery to be convened at this Church, to fulfill the request of Shiloh Church, in regard to the ordination of Brother Wm. C. Cleveland to the work of the gospel ministry.

Business resumed at 1 o'clock, and report on Missions read, and adopted. (See Appendix A.) Report on Documents read by chairman of committee, after which an adjourment was announced of 35 minutes for refreshments.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2-1-2 o'clock.

The Moderator called the body to order, and the consideration of business was resumed, by taking up the Report on Documents, which was unanimously adopted. (See Appendix B.)

The report of the Committee on State of Religion in the Churches, wsa read, and after some discussion adopted. (See Appendix C.)

Report of the Mission Board of Alabama Baptist Association was read, and adopted. (Appendix D.)

Followed by a detailed statement of the Missionary Elder David Lee—of his labors and their results—during the associational year.—(Appendix E.)

Voted, that a committee of three, with Brother I. T. Tichenor as chairman, be appointed to nominate a Board of Missions for the ensuing year to be located at Greenville. The names of brethren T. M. Bailey and G. G. McLendon were selected to complete the desired number.

In accordance with the above resolution the following board was nominated: Brethren John G. Gamble, P. H. Lundy, J. M. Thigpen, J. T. S. Park, J. E. Bell, and Matthew Bishop.

Reports of Finance committee, and Treasurer, read and referred to the Auditing Committee.

The Committee on Religious Exercises report Elder I. T. Tichenor to preach the Missionary sermon at 11 o'clock A. M. to-morrow, and Elder P. H. Lundy to follow in the afternoon.

On motion, the Moderator was requested to appoint ten delegates to represent this body in the Sabbath School Convention which meets in Marion, Wednesday night previous to the State Convention.

The names of the delegates to the convention were selected to discharge this duty.

On motion, the committee on Sabbath Schools were instructed to make their report at 3 1-2 o'clock this afternoon.

The next session of this body will convene with Pine Level church Montgomery county, Friday before the 2d Sabbath in October, 1869.

Voted, that the committee on Religious Exercises be instructed to report the names of brethren, who are to preach the annual sermon before this body at its next session, and the Missionary sermon on Sabbath.

The delegates of Ramah Church applied for a letter of dismission from this body, which request was granted, and the Clerk instructed to prepare it for the signature of the Moderator.

Voted, that the Clerk receive $25 as compensation for his services, and the remainder of the minute fund be devoted to printing as many copies as it will pay for to be distribnted among the churches.

Auditing committee announced the Finance and Treasurer's reports as examined and found correct. (Appendices F and G.)

Committee on Religious Exercises report Brother A. C. Barron to preach the next annual sermon before the Association; Brother Wm C. Cleveland alternate. Brother Matthew Bishop the Missionary ser-

mon, and Brother B. H. Crumpton alternate.

On motion, business was suspended ten minutes to allow pledges to be taken for the support of our missionary the ensuing year, with the following result: Providence Church $25, Bethel Church $20, Hickory Grove Church $15, Hopewell Church $75, Ash Creek Church $20, Town Creek Church, cash, $6,35, Autaugaville Church $10, Mount Lebanon Church, Montgomery county, $10, Good Hope Church $15, Steep Creek Church $25, Greenville Church $25, H. W. Caffey $10, C. C. Cleveland $5.

Voted, that the Mission Board be authorized to devote any unappropriated funds in the hands of Treasurer, belonging to the Association to the payment of the salary of our missionary.

Report of committee on Sabbath Schools read by the chairman, and adopted. (Appendix H.)

The Association voted, that Brethren P. H. Lundy and Matthew Bishop be appointed by the Moderator to draft suitable resolutions expressive of the sense of regret felt by this body at the dissolution of relations, heretofore existing, by removal to other and distant fields of labor, on the part of our beloved Brethren H. Talbird, T. M. Bailey, and D. H. Burt; and the high regard and the Christian fellowship in which they are held by us. That these resolutions be appended to the minutes, and a copy forwarded to the *Christian Index & S. W. Baptist*, *Western Recorder*, Louisville, Ky., and *Baptist Standard*, Chicago, Ill.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are hereby tendered to the Brethren of the Steep Creek Church, and friends of the community, for the generous hospitality extended, which has rendered our brief visit among them so delightful.

Moved, that the Association do now adjourn until to-morrow (Sabbath) 11 o'clock, A. M., to hear the sermon on Missions. Prayer by Elder I. T. Tichenor.

SABBATH.

According to appointment, Elder I. T. Tichenor preached to a large and attentive congregation from Luke 12, 13-21. After which a collection was taken up to be appropriated towards payment of the salary of our missionary, amounting to cash $60,25 pledges $24, total $84,25.

Elder P. H. Lundy preached in the afternoon from Job 7, 17,—"I would not live alway."

Subsequent to which, the Moderator announced the body adjourned to meet according to appointment.

DAVID LEE,
Moderator.

H. W. CAFFEY, Clerk.

APPENDIX A.

Your committee labors under great embarrassment in making a report on the subject of missions at this time. We deem it superfluous to make recommendations which we can see no reasonable probability of putting into execution. The Churches within our own bounds are impoverished, and many of them without Pastors, and the regular ministry of the word; and will themselves embrace proper fields for missionary effort; and it would appear solemn mockery to your committee to make a labored report showing the destitution in other regions, and inviting their contributions to ameliorate it, when their own spiritual necessities are so urgent. Our hearts feel deeply impressed with the conviction that our Brethren have not hitherto realized and performed their whole duty in regard to the great subject of benevolence. Out of our abundance in former years we contributed; it required the denial of no necessity, or even luxury of life; but the period has now arrived when sacrifice is demanded, and like the poor widow in the Scriptures, we must take from that which is our living, unless we are willing to witness precious souls perishing around us, for whom Jesus died. Can we not as Christians, resolve to make this offering on the altar of duty? If we do not so determine and act many of our most cherished enterprises must be abandoned; they now languish and preserve a feeble vitality by the exercise of the greatest self-sacrifice and effort on the part of those engaged in their execution, but this unequal struggle cannot continue much longer; help must come speedily or they must be relinquished.

We believe it would subserve the true interests of the cause of Christ if the pastors of our churches would more frequently labor to inculcate the teaching of the Bible on the subject of giving, and the blessings attending the conscientious discharge of this obligation. Your committee would earnestly recommend the re-employment of Brother David Lee as missionary within the bounds of this association. His labors the past associational year have evidently accomplished great good, and in our judgment there exists as much or greater necessity for the services of a faithful, efficient, godly man at present than ever heretofore.

H. W. CAFFEY, }
T. M. BAILEY, } *Committee.*

B.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your committee find in the letters of the churches somethings which seem to demand attention:

I. A query sent up by the church at Town Creek. While a constitutional difficulty prevents the association from giving a direct answer to

this query, your committee deem it proper to say that cases have arisen in which the action contemplated in the query has been regarded by good and discreet brethren as proper, and right, but we think great prudence and caution ought to be exercised before proceeding to such a step. As there is no express law of the New Testament touching such a question, and we can arrive at duty only by the application of general principles to the particular case, and as in the application of such general principles, there is room for difference of opinion, we do not think such difference ought to be permitted to disturb fellowship among brethren, or in any way to impair faith and confidence in each other by those who may not agree upon such questions.*

II. Letters from several of the churches speak of the difficulty of ascertaining where many of their colored members are; their general neglect of the regular meetings of the church, the impossibility of exercising proper discipline over them, and a strong and growing disposition to a separate organization. Where such things exist, we think it would be better to encourage them to establish independent churches.

III. The church at Ramah asks for a letter of dismission. Your committee recommend it be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

I. T. TICHENOR, Chairman.

*NOTE.—The query referred to in paragraph 1, is as follows:

"Ought a person excluded from a Baptist church, on their own acknowledgment of non-conversion, be re-baptized when received into another church, upon a profession of previous deception, and present joy in trusting Christ."—[CLERK.

C.

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION IN THE CHURCHES.

Your committee on the State of Religion in the Churches composing this association, beg leave to report, the Spirit of the Lord has been poured out on some of the churches, and their membership has been increased by those, we trust, who are the saved of the Lord; who are born not of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Other churches report a cold, wintry season; no revival in their midst.

We regret to report that so many of our able ministers contemplate leaving the bounds of our Association. Brothers Hawthorn and Talbird are already gone; Brothers Tichenor, Bailey, Burt, and Barron, expect to leave soon. It would be well for the churches to ask why is it that so many are leaving in so short a time? We fear it is because they are not supported.

The colored members generally evince a disposition to separate from the whites, and your committee are of the opinion that it would be the best under existing circumstances for them to organize separate churches, but pastors and deacons should use every effort to instruct their leaders in doctrines and ordinances.

The whole number of baptisms as found in the letters is three hundred and eighty-three, which is a less number than was reported last year; the deficiency is to some extent accounted for by the baptisms among the colored people not being included in the report.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES L. SAMPEY, Chairman.

D.

REPORT OF MISSION BOARD.

At a meeting of your board, held immediately after the adjournment of your body last year, Elder D. Lee was appointed for ¾ of his time to labor within the bounds of your Association at the rate of $1,000 per annum. Brother Lee was appointed on the faith of pledges made by churches, and individuals, at the last session of your body. In consequence of the amount pledged not being equal to the amount of your missionary's salary for the entire year; the board felt it to be its duty not to continue the missionary in its service longer than the 1st of August. Your missionary has, however, continued in the field the entire associational year.

Brother Lee has labored faithfully, and accomplished much good. For particulars we refer you to his own report. We recommend that earnest efforts be made to pay your missionary for his services during the entire associational year.

Respectfully submitted.

THOMAS M. BAILEY, Chairman.

E.

REPORT OF MISSIONARY OF THE ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Soon after the adjournment of your last annual meeting, your missionary accepted an appointment to travel as an Evangelist under the direction of your board, three-fourths of his time, reserving one-fourth to serve the Hopewell Baptist Church; for serving that church he is to receive no compensation from your treasurer, neither is the labor with that church noticed in this report, but in consequence of pressing necessities in the missionary field, your missionary devoted three months of the time reserved for the services of the Hopewell Church, to missionary work, which is included in this report, but no compensation is asked or expected for such extra labors.

Your board instructed your missionary to give one week in each month to the service of the Hayneville Baptist Church, but in consequence of important engagements in the missionary field, he did not visit that church in July and August. Your missionary canvassed at an early day parts of Montgomery and Crenshaw counties with a view of selecting stations in the field; in Montgomery county there had been for many

years a church associated with your body, called Liberty; that church had ceased to send delegates to your annual meetings; had ceased to assemble together, and had become completely disorganized; her name had been dropped from your minutes; moreover, their house of worship had been removed by the owner of the land whereon it stood. There was one man who remained; he was in the Confederate army when the other members obtained letters of dismission to join other churches; two others, a brother and sister, still held their letters. In February last, your missionary filled his first appointment in that community at a school house, he continued to visit that station, including the first Sabbath in each month, until August. Including the first week in August, your missionary, assisted by Elder T. J. Miles, conducted a meeting there, lasing seven days. Eleven were baptised, two others were received whose baptism was postponed, but have since received the ordinance. The church consisting of twenty members was reorganized, and called Elder Miles to serve them the balance of the year; a Sabbath School was also organized, numbering sixty scholars and teachers.

In April, your missionary filled an appointment at a shool-house seven or eight miles west of the above mentioned station, at 4 o'clock P. M., preaching at 11 A. M. at the former, and at 4 o'clock P. M. at the latter on the same day. He continned this arrangements until August, in that month he held a meeting of eight days at the latter place, including the 2d and 3d Sabbaths of the month, assisted part of the time by Elders Fonville and Miles. Seven were baptized during the meeting, and received certificates of baptism. On the last day of the meeting, a council was held composed of members of the Mount Lebanon church, (whose house of worship is located three and a half miles distant,) and those baptised during this meeting; Elders McLendon, Miles, and Sampey being present. It was the unanimous opinion that it would tend most to the glory of God to remove the location of Mount Lebanon church, and rebuild near Allen's school-house. The church have since in conference assembled, resolved to remove to the above mentioned place. In visiting the stations aboved named, your missionary preached most of the time at Hickory Grove, Athens, Dublin, Pine Level, and a few times at Sandy Ridge and Midway. At Dublin there have been some efforts made looking to the organization of a church at that place, on some future day not far distant.

In February, your missionary selected a station near Honoraville P. O., in Crenshaw county, at a point about equi-distant from Damascus, Macedonia, and New Ebenezer churches. He has continued to visit that place on the 4th Sabbath in each month, save once; preaching under a brush arbor. Including the 4th Sabbath in August, Elders John Cumbie, Allen Cumbie, and D. H. Burt, assisted your missionary in a meeting of five days, during which two were baptized. A church was constituted by a Presbytery consisting of Elders John Cumbie, Allen Cumbie, D. H. Burt and D. Lee. They number sixteen, and have called Elder John Cumbie

to the pastorate of the church; they are very much in need of a house of worship; the neighborhood is populous, but poor. Any donations to aid them, from the friends of Jesus, to build a house to worship God in will be gratefully received. In visiting this station, your missionary filled appointments irregularly in several other communities, in compliance with requests of citizens thereof.

In the performance of his labors, your missionary has travelled 2221 miles; preached 123 sermons; attended 28 prayer meetings; delivered 51 addresses; visited for religious conversation 303 families; baptized 41; received by letter 22; assisted in the ordination of 3 ministers, and 6 deacons; re-organized one church, and constituted one; and organized one Sabbath school of 60 scholars and teachers.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

DAVID LEE, Missionary.

P. S.—Your missionary was formally notified by the Board in July last that there were not available funds under their control to pay him for a longer time than about the 1st of August. It has been a rule for many years by which your boards have been governed, "not to contract any debt beyond the means at their command." Your missionary accepted the appointment with a full knowledge of the rule of the Board, and the amount of funds. Although he has continued to labor to the end of the associational year, he has no right to expect any compensation for services rendered beyond the assets in the hands of your treasurer. All such services are gratuitous.

DAVID LEE.

F.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Churches.	*Minutes.*	*Ass'n Missions.*	*Dom. Missions.*	*Total*
Town Creek	$4 00	$10 00	$	$14 00
Centre Ridge	2 00	50 00		52 00
Cedar Creek	2 00	10 00		12 00
Providence	4 00	25 00		29 00
Mt. Lebanon (Dallas co.)	3 00	20 00		23 00
Shiloh	2 00	5 00		7 00
Sister Springs	2 00			2 00
Ash Creek	2 00			2 00
Good Hope	3 50	10 00		13 50
Benton	3 25	20 00		23 25
Hopewell	7 00	100 00		107 00
Steep Creek	3 00	25 00		28 00
Hayneville	2 00			2 00
Bethel	6 50	19 45		25 95
Mt. Gilead	2 55	20 00		22 55
Ramah	3 00	33 00		36 00
Unity	3 00	26 00		29 00
Mt. Lebanon (Montg'y co.)	3 00	20 00		23 00
Salem	2 00			2 00
Philadelphia	1 50			1 50
Montgomery 1st				
Montgomery 2d	5 00	3 60		8 60
Bethany	2 50	20 00	5 00	27 50
Elim	2 00			2 00
Macedonia	2 50			2 50
Antioch, (Montg'y co.)	1 00			1 00
Antioch, (Butler co.)	3 00	5 00		8 00
Autaugaville	3 00	4 00		7 00
Liberty	1 50	10 00		11 50
Hickory Grove	3 00	15 00		18 00
Bethesda	2 00			2 00
Damascus	3 00	23 00		26 00
Ephesus	1 25			1 25
Sardis	2 00	5 00		7 00
New Ebenezer	2 00			2
Greenville	5 00			5 00
Union	2 00			2 00
	$102 05	$479 05	$5 00	$586 10

Respectfully submitted.

T. E. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

1867—Oct. 12. J. C. Hill in account with Alabama Baptist Association. DR.

To Amount Minute fund sent up by churches			109 75
" " Cash sent by churches for Domestic and Association Missions			413 00
" " " Public collection on Sabbath			61 03
" " " Private " and pledges			22 50
Dec. 14	"	from Ash Creek church for missions	2 50
			$608 78

1867—Oct. 12. CR.

By Am't p'd clerk of Association Minute fund, as per receipt			$109 75
" " " Rev. M. T. Sumner, Cor. Sec. Dom. Board		"	413 00
" " " " " " "		"	61 03
" " " on Order of Rev. T. M. Bailey, President of.... Dom. Miss. board Ala. Bap. Ass'n. per voucher..			25 00
			$608 78

Respectfully submitted.

J. C. HILL, Treasurer.

Your anditing committee beg leave to report they have examined the Finance, and Treasurer's reports, and find them correct.

Respectfully submitted.

THOMAS BLAKE, Chairman.

H.

Your committee on Sabbath Schools would make the following report:

It is not necessary at this late day, to offer any argument to prove, that the Sabbath School organization has the sanction of the Bible, or that the influence it has, and does exert on the church, and the community is good. It is however, important to urge the membership of each and every church, to establish within its boundary a Sabbath School; and when organized labor faithfully, and energetically for its prosperity. When the old and middle aged, smile upon, and encourage by their presence, it is comparatively easy to interest the young, and secure their attendance. We rejoice to know, that within our bounds there are many flourishing Schools, but until each church in our association shall sustain one, we shall not have done our full duty.

P. H. LUNDY, Chairman.

The committee appointed to offer suitable resolutions, evidencing our Christian regard for those ministering brethren, belonging to our body, who have gone, and are on the eve of leaving our state; would make the following report:

We learn with sincere regret that our beloved brethren, Rev. H. Talbird D. D., Rev. T. M. Bailey, and Rev. D. H. Burt, are about to remove beyond the boundary of our state; Brother Talbird locating in Henderson, Ky; Brother Bailey removing to the state of Iowa, and Bro. Burt to Louisiana.

We do, and shall feel their loss; for near thirty years Bro. Talbird has labored faithfully in the vineyard of our Master; wise in council; efficient in the pulpit; faithful in all the relations of life, we lament that we can no longer have his influence.

Bro. Bailey, in the prime and vigor of manhood, has for eleven years, with zeal, energy, and efficiency preached in our midst, the unsearchable riches of Christ; we shall long remember him. Bro. Burt is a young brother of promise, just having entered upon the great work of the ministry. We commend them individually, to the kind regard, and Christian confidence of the Baptist brotherhood, wherever in the Providence of God, their lot may be cast.

P. H. LUNDY, }
MATTHEW BISHOP, } *Committee.*

Statistics of the Churches.

	Churches.	Ministers.	Clerks.	Post Offices.	Baptised	Rec'd by Voucher	Rec'd by Letter.	Restored	Dismis'd by Letter	Exclud'd	Deceased	Whites	Blacks	Whole Number.	Sabbath Meeting.
First District	Town Creek	B. H. Crumpton	E. W. Hardy	Benton	20	2	....	1	10	4	..	89	147	236	2d
	Sister Springs,	David Peebles	Jere Johnson	Selma	40	....	....	..	....	3	3	30	134	164	3rd
	Providence	B. H. Crumpton	B. F. Hitt	Cambridge	2	....	....	..	1	..	1	69	....	69	1st
	Shiloh,	W. Wilkes	Chas.C. Cleveland	Selma	11	....	4	2	....	..	..	27	263	290	2d
	Cedar Creek		Joseph Soles	Farmersville	....	....	4	..	1	..	3	59	....	59	
	Bethany,	David Peebles	H. W. Caffey	Benton	7	....	1	..	....	..	2	22	190	212	1st
	Mt. Lebanon (Dallas)	David Peebles	Thos. E. Williams	Pleasant Hill	....	....	....	..	5	1	1	76	198	274	2nd
	Centre Ridge	H. Talbird	J. W. Dennis	Richmond	10	1	4	..	3	1	..	98	295	393	2d and 4th
Second District	Ash Creek	Thomas M. Bailey	Henry Orum	Hayneville	4	....	1	2	21	1	1	55	70	125	2nd
	Good Hope	J. C. R. Lockhart	A. Peagler	Greenville	....	4	5	..	8	3	..	38	23	61	4th
	Mount Gilead	Thomas M. Bailey	J. A. Edwards	Benton	13	....	2	3	4	..	1	41	143	184	3rd
	Hayneville,	Missionary	B. B. Rudulph	Hayneville	1	....	2	....	....	..	..	20	....	20	3rd
	Benton,	David Peebles	Robert Gresham	Benton	....	....	3	....	....	..	..	35	14	49	2nd
	Bethel	Matthew Bishop	R. M. Burt	Fort Deposit	7	....	12	..	16	1	2	....	....	168	1st and 3rd
	Steep Creek	Thomas M. Bailey	U. G. W. Powell	Hayneville	2	....	1	..	79	2	1	54	....	54	1st
	Hopewell	David Lee	J. H. Robertson	Mt. Willing	5	....	5	1	....	6	2	164	74	238	1st
	Lowndesboro		P. N. Cilley	Lowndesboro'	59	....	4	..	2	..	1	4	193	197	
Third District	Montgomery 1st	I. T. Tichenor		Montgomery	....	....	....	..	....	..	..	....	....	....	
	Montgomery 2d	A. C. Barron	A. Howard	Montgomery	....	....	14	..	5	10	3	163	....	163	
	Unity	P. H. Lundy	James M. Smith	Prattville	....	....	....	..	2	2	..	94	71	165	4th
	Elim	A. C. Barron	M. McLemore	Montgomery	31	....	2	13	145	5	5	8	*unkn*	....	4th
	Liberty	Missionary	J. A. Mitchell	Pine Level	14	....	4	..	....	..	..	21	....	21	3rd
	Ramah [*Dismissed.*]	G. G. McLendon	C. R. Waller	Ramah	1	....	4	..	6	2	2	62	12	74	2nd
	Autaugaville	A. Andrews	J. T. Hester	Autaugaville	4	....	3	..	3	1	..	32	100	132	2nd
	Antioch (Montg'y Co.)	H. E. Taliaferro	T. R. Lide	Mt. Meigs	25	3	6	5	2	..	1	....	....	....	
	Mt. Lebanon(Montg'y)	G. G. McLendon	J. H. Bradshaw	Oakley	113	....	2	....	....	..	1	39	191	230	
	Hickory Grove	J. A. Fonville	Asa Dean	HickoryGrove	1	....	2	..	1	2	1	37	33	70	3rd
	New Ebenezer	J. J. Cumbie	Thomas Boytt	Honoraville	2	....	1	..	2	4	..	49	1	50	2nd
	Sardis	J. J. Cumbie	J. O. Sharp	Greenville	....	....	4	..	9	3	2	33	2	35	4th
Fourth District.	Damascus	D. H. Burt	S. F. Andress	"	19	....	13	1	19	9	2	200	36	236	3rd
	Greenville	P. H. Lundy	J. M. Thigpen	"	1	....	11	..	15	..	2	....	....	145	
	Macedonia	J. A. Fonville	R. M. Sims	"	....	....	....	..	....	..	..	35	1	36	1st
	Ephesus	J. Oswald	J. W. Laflore	Oakey Streak	6	....	....	1	....	..	1	22	....	22	
	Antioch (Butler Co.)	D. H Burt	H. Garrett	Greenville	9	....	14	2	....	8	..	63	....	63	2nd and 4th
	Salem	J. Falconer	T. J. Crawford		....	....	....	..	92	....	..	10	89	99	
	Philadelphia	J. B. Hickabee	T. W. Thrower	Argus	....	....	....	..	....	7	..	11	....	11	
	Union	Missionary	J. C. Ramage		2	....	1	..	....	..	..	16	....	16	

NOTE.—Clerks of Churches will confer a favor by observing the order in this table in making up the statistics of their respective Churches